

## The CIAC Paddle

Helping You Navigate the IA Continuum



11th Edition, February 2013 - Supplement

"Top Ten" Focus Area #11
Veterans Opportunity to Work (VOW) Act and Veterans Employment Initiative (VEI)

Defines the VOW Act & VEI and identifies additional requirements for all demobilizing IA & RC Unit Sailors.

Re-Deployment

- a) President Obama signed VOW Act as part of National Defense Authorization Act of 2011 and includes the White House's VEI to reduce veteran unemployment rates.
  - The VOW Act/VEI mandates that all separating IA and RC Unit Sailors attend a 5-day Transition Assistance Program (TAP) class upon their re-deployment/demobilization if they served 180 days or more on Active Duty.
- b) All RC IA Sailors departing the Navy return through their designated NMPS who have served 180 days or more on Active Duty are required to complete TAP requirements.
  - All RC redeployers departing the Navy conduct pre-separation counseling and attend VA benefits briefing at NMPS.
  - NMPS now becomes a 2 week I-STOP.
  - Exemptions from the Department of Labor (DOL) portion of TAP requirements are self-certified for employment, enrollment in formal education program, and/or prior TAP attendance.
  - "Self-certification" will be completed at the respective NMPS.
  - RC redeployers who are exempt from the DOL Employment Workshop of TAP will be able to
    finish processing within the <u>first week</u> at NMPS and return to their NOSC immediately following
    without attending TAP.
  - Note that redeployers are not required to waive TAP if they would like to attend the class.
  - Non-exempt (not waived) redeployers from the DOL Employment Workshop part of the TAP will attend TAP class the week following the first week of out-processing at NMPS.
- c) Questions: Email <u>USFF IA Support</u>.
- d) For more information visit the **VOW Act & VEI** webpage on the Navy IA website.